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January 29, 2002 LB 547A, 547

additional investigator to work on these kinds of cases. In the event that 64 insurers are nicked for the assessment of \$1,000 apiece, that would cover the cost of that additional investigator and make, essentially, the bill break even and pay for itself with the increased investigator and the workload that would be created by the use and passage of LB 547. I'd ask for the adoption and advancement of the bill and then I will reiterate the terms of the A bill, should the bill advance.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: You've heard the closing. The question before the body is the advancement of LB 547. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted who care to? Record.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 31 ayes, 0 mays, on the motion to advance the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: The bill advances.

SENATOR LANDIS: (Microphone malfunction)...the A bill which has a small amendment to it...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Would you...Senator Landis, excuse me just a second. We haven't...just haven't got to the A bill just yet. I'm sorry. Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, with respect to the A bill, LB 547A was introduced by Senator Landis. (Read title.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Landis, I'm sorry. You are recognized to open on the A bill.

SENATOR LANDIS: My apologies as well, Mr. Speaker. I didn't hear...hear well. As I said, there are 64 insurers who would be brought under the auspices of our Fraud Act. The assessment that's allowed is \$1,000 per insurer. This is 136,000 workers so, as you can imagine, there will be a need for a workload increase by the department, an expectation of one more investigator. The cost of an investigator is \$53,000 in Cash Funds for 2002, and \$51,000 in 2003 to '04. There is apparently a small amendment that has been filed because, since the bill